

**What Is Claimed Is:**

1               1. In a wireless communication system  
2 including a network controller providing  
3 communication services to a plurality of mobile user  
4 terminals, a method of defining user zones  
5 associated with each of said user terminals  
6 comprising the steps of:

7               locating a user terminal within said  
8 wireless communication system;

9               referencing at least one user-selected  
10 vector from said user terminal location;

11              transmitting said vector information to  
12 said network controller; and

13              generating at the network controller, a  
14 user zone associated with said user terminal as a  
15 function of said vector information, said user zone  
16 defining a geographic region wherein said user  
17 terminal can access said communication services of  
18 said communication system without incurring out-of-  
19 network fees.

1               2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step  
2 of locating a user terminal within said wireless  
3 communication system includes the step of receiving  
4 at the user terminal global positioning system (GPS)  
5 signals and providing coordinates indicating location  
6 of the user terminal.

1               3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step  
2 of providing coordinates indicating location of the  
3 user terminal includes the step of displaying the  
4 location of the user terminal referenced to a map on  
5 a display of the user terminal.

1               4. The method of claim 1 wherein the step  
2 of referencing at least one user-selected vector from  
3 said user terminal location includes the step of  
4 referencing a plurality of vectors from said user  
5 terminal location, each of said vectors providing a  
6 distance and angle measurement referenced from a  
7 predetermined direction from the location of the user  
8 terminal, and wherein the step of generating at the  
9 network controller, a user zone associated with said  
10 user terminal as a function of said vector  
11 information includes the step of connecting each end  
12 point defined by each of said vectors to form said  
13 user zone.

1               5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step  
2 of referencing at least one user-selected vector from  
3 said user terminal location includes the step of  
4 referencing a vector representing a radius ( $r$ ) from  
5 said user terminal location, and wherein the step of  
6 generating at the network controller, a user zone  
7 associated with said user terminal as a function of  
8 said vector information includes the step of defining  
9 a circle about said user terminal of radius  $r$  to form  
10 said user zone.

1                 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said  
2 network controller is a mobile switching center.

1                 7. A wireless communication system  
2 comprising, in combination:

3                     a network controller for processing  
4 communication data transmitted to, and received from,  
5 a plurality of mobile user terminals;  
6                     at least one of said mobile user terminals  
7 including a global position system (GPS) receiver for  
8 locating said user terminal within said wireless  
9 communication system and a user display for defining  
10 a preferred user zone;

11                  said network controller including a  
12 processor for generating a user zone associated with  
13 each of said user terminals as a function of the  
14 defined preferred user zone, said user zone defining  
15 a geographic region wherein said user terminal can  
16 access said communication services of said  
17 communication system without incurring out-of-network  
18 fees.

1                 8. The wireless communication system of  
2 claim 7 wherein the network controller is a mobile  
3 switching center.

1                 9. The wireless communication system of  
2 claim 7 wherein said communication data includes  
3 voice and data information.

1               10. The wireless communication system of  
2 claim 7 wherein said mobile user terminal includes  
3 means for inputting at least one user-selected vector  
4 referenced from said user terminal location, said at  
5 least one vector being used to generate said user  
6 zone.

1               11. The wireless communication system of  
2 claim 7 wherein said mobile user terminal includes a  
3 stylus in operative communication with said display,  
4 said stylus being used to referencing at least one  
5 user-selected vector from said user terminal  
6 location, said at least one vector being used to  
7 generate said user zone.

1               12. The wireless communication system of  
2 claim 11 wherein said display includes a map  
3 referencing the position of the user terminal with  
4 respect to at least one landmark.

1               13. In a geographic region serviced by at  
2 least two wireless communication service providers,  
3 each of said service providers having a wireless  
4 communication system including a network controller  
5 providing communication services to a plurality of  
6 mobile user terminals, a method of requesting  
7 communication services within a user-defined user  
8 zone comprising the steps of:

9               locating a user terminal within said  
10 geographic region serviced by at least two wireless  
11 communication service providers;

12               referencing at least one user-selected  
13 vector from said user terminal location;

14               transmitting from said user terminal, said  
15 vector data to said wireless communication service  
16 providers; and

17               receiving from at least one of said  
18 wireless communication service providers a quote for  
19 services within a user zone defining a geographic  
20 region as a function of said vector information.

1               14. The method of claim 13 further  
2 comprising the step of transmitting from said user  
3 terminal a request for voice communication services  
4 to said wireless communication service providers.

1               15. The method of claim 13 further  
2 comprising the step of transmitting from said user  
3 terminal a request for data transmission services to  
4 said wireless communication service providers.

1               16. The method of claim 13 wherein the  
2 step of receiving from at least one of said wireless  
3 communication service providers a quote for services  
4 includes a quote for voice communication services.

1               17. The method of claim 13 wherein the  
2 step of receiving from at least one of said wireless  
3 communication service providers a quote for services  
4 includes a quote for data transmission services.